IRONDALE NEWSLETTER

Produced by the Bark Lake Cultural Developments

February / March 2022

Bark Lake Cultural Developments

Charitable No.
80487 0087 RR0001

Incorporation No.
1871121

Historical
@IrondaleOntario.ca

Host your next function at Irondale's heritage church

Rental Information & Newsletter Editor
Carol 705-457-8438

When we save a historic place, it is about so much more than just the physical bricks and mortar. We are saving the memories and the stories of these places, connecting us to something bigger than ourselves.

I recall some time ago getting a message that read something like "I have a hard time getting my invited friends/neighbours to attend your events. They tell me that the everything you do is geared to the church building."

We are not able to host events at the current time, but please assure your friends and neighbours that we are working behind the scenes. Not everything we do is visible. We have been gathering photos, researching stories, writing newsletters and always looking for funding for our ideas. We have displays set up in the hall adjoining the historical church building. Once the pandemic is over - invite your friends and neighbours to drop by and have a look. Let us know and we will have the coffee pot on.

Drop us a line historical@IrondaleOntario.ca, or by post to Box 113 Irondale, ON K0M 1X0 or call us at the number on the left. We are always open to ideas for events, displays, story themes, etc.

Irondale Community Centre

Advisory Committee
of
Minden Hills Council

centre@IrondaleOntario.ca

~Rentals~

Rentals for the centre can be booked thru
Barry Simmons
705-447-2380
hugamugga@yahoo.com

The Book Nook Is Open 24/7

There are books, videos and dvds for every taste.
Free to borrow, trade or add to a collection.
You will find the book nook at 1019 Elm Rd,
to the left of the church

BARK LAKE CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS
collecting & preserving Irondale's history
Home Articles Photos About Subscribe
Our mission is to bring together people interested in the heritage of the Irondale area.
Learn More

New Website!

Carol, I just took a tour of the new Irondale website. It looks great! Congratulations.

Please have a look at it for yourselves.

Our old website had many issues and the company that used to host it for us, was no longer able to do so. After some research, we hired Aaron Berning of Berning.ca in Wilberforce to build a new website that was easy to update. It was the less expensive option.

Did you notice the fantastic new logo in the top left corner of the website? Linda Middleton of Crystal Images Studio, designed and provided us with several versions. Regardless of the use, we will always the proper one. You will see these two versions from time to time as well.

We thank both Aaron and Linda for their willingness to assist and their expertise in making our thoughts and ideas a reality.

we accept PayPal

VISA MasterCard

Cash and Cheques as well for Event Tickets, Donations and Souvenir Purchases

How well do you know your Canadian Trivia?

1) Who became Canada's first woman Supreme Court Chief Justice? And when?
2) What boots were introduced by Kitchener company Kaufman Footware?
3) What year was the Canadian $2 bill discontinued?
4) What is the main ingredient in baking powder?
5) Who wrote the novels 'The Bourne Identity' and 'The Bourne Supremacy?
6) What Guns N' Roses member's real name is William Bailey?
7) In what war was Sir Isaac Brock killed at Queenston Heights near Niagara Falls?
8) On what beach did Canadians land in D-Day attacks in 1944?
9) What Ontario beach is the world's largest fresh water beach?
10) What is considered the top-selling grocery item at Walmart?
11) What Ontario city is nicknamed 'Steeltown' or 'The Hammer'?
12) What is called the 'universal solvent' because it dissolves many substances?
13) What rubbery material acts as a cushion between human bone joints?
14) What common ingredient could dissolve pearls because of its acetic acid?
15) What is the southern most spot in Canada to find Beluga whales?

You know the drill—answers in the April/May newsletter

Obituary for
Bryan Neville
January 25, 2022

attending many Irondale events

Our Condolences to family & friends.

50/50 Lottery
HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION
LIC#RAF1207576

NEXT GRAND PRIZE DRAW
MARCH 1. 2022

BUY TICKETS NOW

Support your Hospital and Health Care Facilities!

705-457-1580 | www.hhhsf5050.ca

HHHS Foundation 5050 raffle lottery, LIC# RAF1207576, is an online monthly charity raffle in support of the purchase of priority capital equipment for hospital and health care facilities in the Haliburton Highlands. Purchasers must be in the province of Ontario at the time of ticket purchase, and must be 18 years of age or older to participate.

Visit www.hhhsf5050.ca to see full rules of play and to purchase tickets. Prefer to buy tickets in person? Call us at 705 457 1580 to learn how.

February 15, 2022 ~ triple bingo night where you can win up to $2,400.00

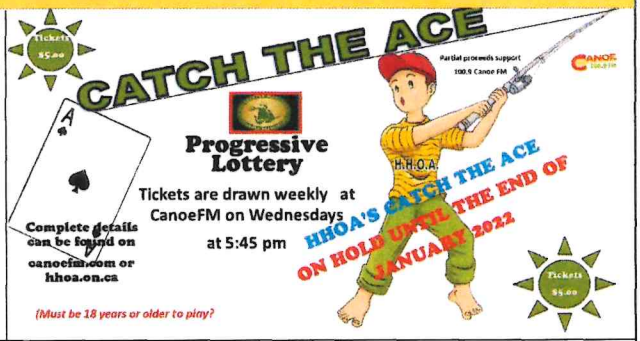
Canoe FM Radio Bingo – Hottest Game in Town

Listen and Play Radio Bingo every Tuesday Night at 6pm
Three games are played each Tuesday night
For information and a list of stores selling bingo sheets go to www.canoefm.com
You can win up to $800.00 every week

** You must be 18 years of age or older to play**

Support Your Local Businesses

They in turn support your events and donate to great local charities

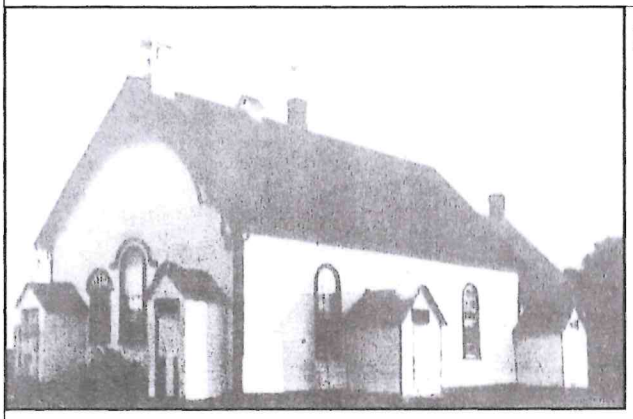

CATCH THE ACE
Progressive Lottery
Tickets are drawn weekly at CanoeFM on Wednesdays at 5:45 pm
Complete details can be found on canoefm.com or hhoa.on.ca
HHOA'S CATCH THE ACE ON HOLD UNTIL THE END OF JANUARY 2022
(Must be 18 years or older to play)

Groundhogs, also called woodchucks, typically weigh 12 to 15 pounds and live six to eight years. They eat vegetables and fruits, whistle when they're frightened or looking for a mate. They can climb trees and swim.

In February, male groundhogs emerge from their burrows to look for a mate (not to predict the weather) before going underground again. They come out of hibernation for good in March.

Groundhog Day - Feb 2

In 1887, a newspaper editor belonging to a group of groundhog hunters from Punxsutawney called the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club declared that Phil, the Punxsutawney groundhog, was America's only true weather-forecasting groundhog. The line of groundhogs that have since been known as Phil might be America's most famous groundhogs, but other towns across North America now have their own weather-predicting rodents, from Birmingham Bill to Staten Island Chuck to Shubenacadie Sam in Canada.



Minden's Model School

In the early 1800's, there was an educational institution existing in Haliburton County, which was referred to as the Model School. The equivalent to this school today is Teacher's College.

These classes were held in the back room of the frame school. It was located on the site of the Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden. You can see the Model School roof in the shadows behind the main classroom the picture to the left.

Normal Schools were first established by provincial departments of education in mid-19th-century British North America as institutions to train teachers for the rapidly expanding tax-supported public education systems of the day. Model School differed from Normal School in that the academic requirements were lower and the duration of the course was shorter. Subjects taught at the Model School were: Reading, Literature, History, Arithmetic, Grammar, Composition, Drawing and Geography.

The following is an excerpt from the Women's Institute'sTweedsmuir Books.
Mrs. Jane Fairfield, a former teacher in Haliburton County, wrote this article explaining her experiences at the Model School. "In the fall of 1895, anyone just turning seventeen attended Minden Model School classes, a fair 4 months course to train for teaching the children in the early settlement. These students were usually the sons and daughters of the ambitious pioneer families and they took this responsible work most seriously, obtaining a third class certificate, valid for three years in local schools. Model School courses were also taught in Orillia and Peterborough. From 1889 to 1900, the principal, Mr. Chas. S. Eggleton, taught the Model School class (the graduates of the Entrance Class) in the front room of the frame school. During model school we (1895) enjoyed several parties. We rode 18 miles by wagon to the Ino Scott's home near Gelert. It was a Methodist Party, therefore, no dancing or card playing, but nevertheless a good time was had by ball. Another pleasant evening was spent at Cliff Cottage, Miss Delamere's home. An evening was also spent at the Currys' (the Inspector and pioneer M.D.) When S. Phillips arrived, we were invited there."

Ontario

We Would Be Rather Remiss

If we didn't give you information to get your Vaccine, Booster and/or Enhanced Vaccine Certificate

https://covid-19.ontario.ca/proof-covid-19-vaccination

You can call Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900 to book an appointment

or to have your Enhanced Vaccine Certificate emailed / mailed to you

Follow up to our October/November 2021 issue ...

Hello Carol.
In one of the 2021 newsletters, on page 1, there was a picture of a class with the teacher, Josephine Kylie. On page 2, there was an article about the class and the teacher.
The teacher, Josephine Kylie, is a cousin of mine who lived on Hwy 503 east of White Boundary Rd. (and west of Furnace Falls) in a farmhouse with her parents, five brothers and one sister. When Josephine married, her surname became Anstess and she lived at Sault Ste. Marie. I mailed her the Irondale newsletter and she wrote a thank you.
Nancy Hopkinson

"Dear Nancy,
Thank you for sending the copy of the Irondale newsletter. I really enjoyed it. Dorothy described the room so well I felt as if I were actually back there. When I try to describe it myself, I tend to mix it up with the Furnace Falls school. They were similar, of course, but had some different details.
It was good that she mentioned the "helpers" who used to come at different times. I particularly remember Jane Minot, the school nurse. She was someone I could talk to. I was only 17 yrs old and really out there on my own, so it was good to have someone like Jane.
Love, Josephine"

Editors note—The article and picture in question were on page one and two of the October / November 2021 issue.

Hi Dave
I am not sure what it is that you are looking for regarding the Askey's. I did a little research and found the following pieces ...

http://www.bancroftthisweek.com/?p=8154
A December 1944 news piece entitled "Ontario Railway Nightmare Line" aptly describes what happened to the I.B.&O. railway and why it never reached Ottawa. In fact, builder Charles Pusey's bankroll had thinned due to high construction costs and the limited know-how disappeared at York River, about three miles short of reaching Bancroft. Pusey sold off his steel and paid off the help- but he still had the charter for a railroad to Ottawa.
The article includes an interview with Frank Askey, a Bancroft old-timer, who had worked on the I.B.&O. railway as a $1.25 a day construction hand. "We had a lot of trouble in those days. Once we really had a rush job. That was the time we were supposed to have an engine standing at Gooderham by a certain day, if Pusey was to hold onto his charter. We built two sections of tract and by playing leapfrog with those sections we managed to get an engine into Gooderham in time. The engine got there all right, but there were no tracks behind it for six miles and none in front. Pusey kept his charter."

Genealogy
Frank Askey was born about 1842, Horsleydown, Southwark, Surrey, England to John and Anna Asker(y).

1851 England Census - St Olave, Southwark, Surrey, England
John is 39, Anna 30, Martha 12, Frank 10, Ellen 7, John 6, James 3, William 1 and Alfred is a newborn.

1871 England Census - St Olave, Southwark, Surrey, England
Has siblings living together --- Frank is 30 and listed as a Foreman PO telegrapher, Martha is 32 listed as a seamstress, Ellen is 26 listed as a seamstress , James is 23 listed as a Fitter and Emma is 16.
Frank Askey was 35 yrs old and a painter when he married Mary Dean. She was 21 yrs old, born in Ryegate England to George & Harriett Dean. The marriage took place Apr 6, 1877 in Dysart, part of Peterborough County, Ontario (at that point in time)

1881 Canada Census - Somerville Twp, Victoria N. County
Frank is 39 and listed as a railway station master.
Mary is 24, Harriet M. is 6, Frank is 4, John H, 2 and Annie 7 months old.

1891 Canada Census - Somerville Twp, Victoria N. County
the family has now expanded to include Emma is 8, James is 9, Florence is 5 and Beatrice is a newborn.

In the book titled "History of Kinmount - Community on the Fringe" by Guy Scott - pg 143 - The business directory for 1891 reads as follows: Frank Askey - Station Agent.

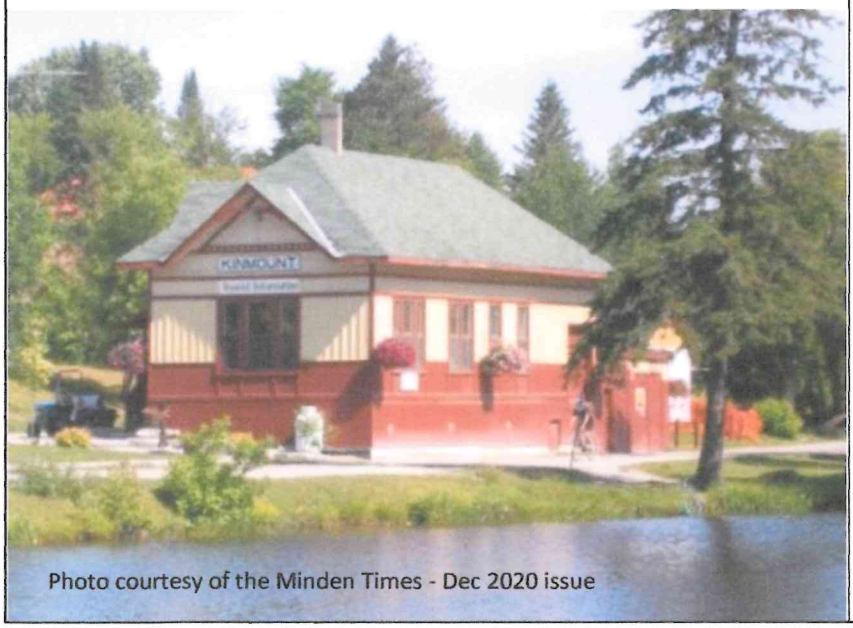


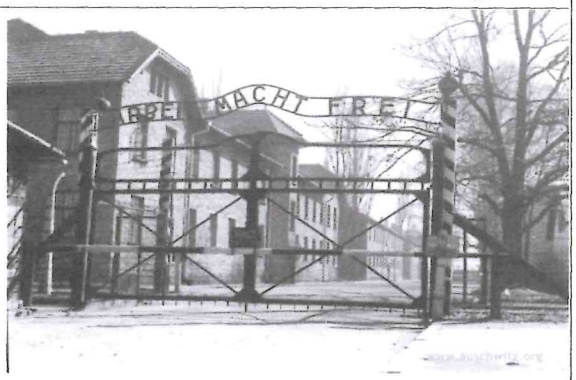
Photo courtesy of the Minden Times - Dec 2020 issue

The Girl I Used To Be

She came to-night as I sat alone,
The girl that I used to be,
And she gazed at me with her earnest eyes,
And she questioned reproachfully;
"Have you forgotten the many plans
And hopes that I had for you,
The great career, the splendid fame,
All the wonderful things to do?
Where is the mansion of stately height,
With it's grounds and gardens rare,
The silken robes that I dread for you,
And the jewels for your hair?"
And as she spoke I was very sad,
For I wanted her pleased with me —
This slender girl from the shadowy past,
The girl that I used to be.
So gently arising I took her hand
And guided her up the stair,
Where peacefully sleeping my babies lay,
Innocent, sweet and fair,
And I told her they are my only gems,
And precious they are to me:
That my silken robe is my motherhood,
Of costly simplicity,
And my mansion of stately height is love,
And the only career I know
Is serving each day in it's sheltering walls
For the dear ones who come and go.
And as I spoke to my shadow guest,
She smiled through her tears at me,
And I saw that the woman that I am now
Pleased the girl that I used to be.

Author—Rowena K. Lewis © 2001

One of history's darkest moments brought to life...



An Auschwitz Virtual Live Tour provides a unique learning experience about the Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp, using historical footage, Holocaust survivor testimonies, panorama pictures and modern animation combined with virtual reality tools to teach about the horrors that happened in the world's most infamous concentration camp.
The group tours are live, led by expert tour guides in Poland who can answer questions and interact with participants during the tour. Visit an historical testament of one of humanity's deepest failures in this most faithful representation of an in-person visit to the Auschwitz memorial site.

Carol writes - "I took one of these tours on Jan 25, 2022 knowing that I will never have the opportunity to travel to Poland to visit the site in person. I am grateful for the opportunity to have participated. I will never forget this. THAT may be the most important takeaway – NEVER FORGET. While I'd like for as many as possible to experience this presentation in the intimate, interactive way that we were able to, I want to encourage this to be offered to as many people as possible. The presentation was well thought out. Jerzy Wójcik, commentator, has the knowledge, the passion and the perfect voice"

Take a live virtual tour of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp.
Tours are approximately 2 hours long and are followed by Q&A.
Below are the available tours. Please note your time zone when registering.
Wednesday February 16, 4pm EST Sunday May 8, 1pm EDT or 5pm EDT Sunday May 15, 1pm EDT
To book your tour - https://holocausteducation.center/public-tour/?registrants.source=mainsite

From Jerzy himself - Professionally I'm the guide and educator at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum. A couple of years ago, I decided it would be incredible to create an Auschwitz seminar as preparation before the visit in Auschwitz. Over the years the whole idea grew and finally when the COVID situation came to us, I decided to put all of those pieces together. The first virtual tour I had, was August 20, 2021. I simply recreated everything what I do as a guide in Auschwitz, I recreated online. So I'm using all of the possible digital software that I can use. I use my recordings from Auschwitz. I use the Auschwitz Panorama, that is a very specific educational tool developed by the museum at Auschwitz. I use historical footage. I'm using this as educational materials. So my understanding, the Auschwitz Virtual Tour is something instead of the physical visit in Auschwitz. It's extremely impressive. Sometimes for 50, 60 people register for the virtual tours. I'm telling them all the time, it's going to be long, it's going to be uncomfortable. It's going to last two hours and people at the beginning, actually fear sitting two hours in front of the monitor. But when they get into this, nobody is going away from the computer until we finish. So it's something that people would like to see, when they see Auschwitz every corner of the camp. It has turned out to be very successful. ..... Watch and participate in the educational virtual tour, it allows the viewer to really learn. To really go inside the history of the Holocaust and the history of Auschwitz and Birkenau, and understanding as much as we can 75 years later in a way that is not pristine but in a way that is very educational. In a way, it touches you and it's hard, but it's an effective educational tool.

Why it is important today? We can see what is happening right now in the world, actually the growing antisemitism today. It's a great danger. Auschwitz it doesn't represent only the message that something terrible happened to the Jews.
It represents much more broader spectrum of problems. It can happen really today to anyone. It's a universal message of Auschwitz, that if we neglect the political process, if we left our future in the hands of the certain populist politicians, this is how it started in Germany. In the '20s and '30s. It was a slow political process that led Germans to this place, to Auschwitz. So from this perspective, I always encourage people to link what happened in Auschwitz, what events led actually to this place. And to observe what is happening right now in the world. And obviously in Europe, in many other countries as well, we are turning right when it comes to the political developments in many countries, the same in my country is the same situation in Poland.
To learn more, listen to the entire interview on the podcast found at **https://www.conversationwiththerabbi.com/episode/auschwitz-virtual-tours-jerzy-wojcik-holocaust-memorial-partnership**

Additional resources -
Memorial and Museum for Auschwitz-Birkenau Former German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp
http://www.auschwitz.org/en
and the Center for Holocaust Education of the East Valley JCC https://holocausteducation.center

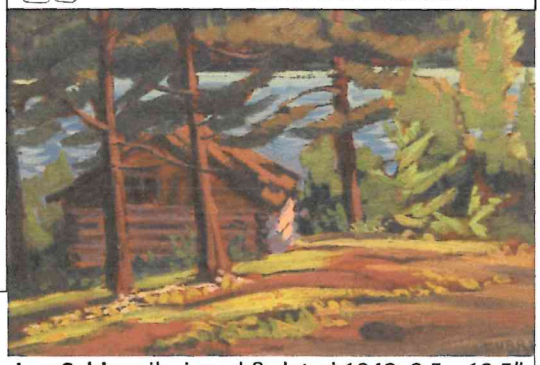
Accolades from Readers

- such an incredible job of collecting stories and information for this newsletter. I loved the Christmas concert story!
- bought several loon calendars. What a great fundraiser.
- another great year of Irondale Newsletters, they help keep me well connected.
- Thank you for publishing that wonderful story by George Pratt. Very beautiful. I admired the writing greatly and was not surprised to learn that the author was an artist.
- enjoyed reading the newsletter on a very snowy morning .... particularly enjoyed the article by George Pratt. I could identify with some of what he said - I went to a one room school for a year in 1945 (although one with more students) .... he is such a good writer!
- You do a great job pulling all the information together and coming up with a fine newsletter!

Editor says THANK YOU for all the kind comments. Very much appreciated.

"We would like to pay for the postage required to send the Newsletter to folks without internet for 2022."

"Keep up the good work .. we are sending along a contribution to your excellent activities."



Log Cabin, oil, signed & dated 1942, 8.5 x 10.5"

Did You Know Ethel Curry?

Ethel Luella Curry was born on June 29, 1902 in a log cabin in Irondale, nestled in the heart of the highlands. Ethel was the first child of pioneering parents.
"In the most riveting image of her remarkably long life that no camera ever recorded, at age 4, she is standing on a raft being towed by a tugboat across Miskwabi Lake. Looking after the family cow for a household move to the tiny village of Haliburton, she is holding its tether in one hand, the small hand of her 2 yr old brother in the other. Dirt poor, the family of four that includes her father and his pregnant wife, is off on an open-ended mission to secure a better life."[1]

Ethel's immediate family - William Robert Curry (1880-1969) married Jessie Ellen Barr (1881-1943) - siblings Peter Ronald James (1904-1984) and Elizebeth Viola Curry (1906-1996)

Her father began as a cook in a lumber camp and in a span of 20 yrs became Haliburton's leading citizen. His many accomplishments and contributions to the community included owning his own lumbering operation, his own local livery stable and the town's first automobile business. He served as both reeve of the township, district inspector of roads and even as Haliburton's undertaker.

Ethel graduated from Lindsay Collegiate in 1919 and received her Teacher Certificate in Peterborough. She taught in a primary school in Haliburton until 1924, when she took a year off to study art at the Ontario College of Art. In 1927, she returned to the College where her association with many young artists developed, including a particularly close friendship with Doris McCarthy. Trips back to the Haliburton Highlands allowed for painting and sketching.
At the college, Ethel studied under Emmanuel Hahn, J.W. Beatty, Arthur Lismer, J.E.H. MacDonald and influenced of other members of the famed Group of Seven. She and Doris McCarthy were Lismer's assistants for the children's classes at the Toronto Art Gallery (now the Art Gallery of Ontario). Ethel joined the staff of Northern Vocational School and was its teacher of sculpture and ceramics, much loved and respected by her students and colleague.

Even as a youngster in the Canadian north, Ethel was inspired by the striking beauty of the forest, a lifelong inspiration that she consistently featured in her wilderness paintings. At times, she spent weeks on end sketching the natural movement of water, documenting its endless forms and characteristics. She brought others to paint in the woods, hills, and settlements of the county, thereby initiated the tradition of landscape painting that has grown to be so important in this area.

The village learned to accept these young artists as valued guests and increasingly came to believe that art was a legitimate and valuable element in life. From these important seeds, the vibrant artistic life of this community has grown to include its summer schools, its galleries and its many private collections. Ethel's work can be viewed at the Ethel Curry Gallery in the village of Haliburton as well a painting donated by Don & Sheila (Curry) Popple can be seen at the Haliburton Hospital (after Covid).

Ethel died April 27, 2000 in the Haliburton Extendicare facility in her 98th year.

Sources: [1] direct quote taken from the book *Northern Belle, the life story of Haliburton's Ethel Curry* by Robert Popple (2003); permission to use one page story given to me by Donald Popple and the article *Ethel Curry: Haliburton's Secret Gift* by S. A. McCormick in The Country Connection magazine (2004).

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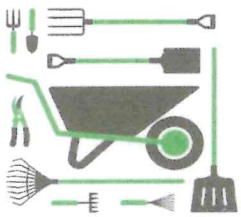

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THE ECHO HALIBURTON COUNTY
The Times MINDEN ONTARIO
County Life Celebrating arts and culture in the Haliburton Highlands

~ Irondale Calendar of Events ~

These are tentative dates - depends on state of Covid pandemic and rental of community centres.
Please be sure to check the appropriate website and/or Facebook pages to get up to date information

2022	Unless otherwise noted - Tickets available online at www.IrondaleOntario.ca or call/text 705-457-8438
Sat. Feb 19 CANCELLED	Trivia Pub Night at the Irondale Community Centre. Doors open at 5pm with dinner served at 5:30pm. The ladies are busy planning the menu and the trivia questions. You won't go away hungry and may win a prize. Brush up on your trivia so you are ready. *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*
Sat. April 16	**Wilberforce Maplefest** Event All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast and lots of shopping with the local vendor tables. 9 am to 2 pm. Wilberforce Community Centre, in the heart of Wilberforce.
Sat. May 7	**Fish 'N Fowl Dinner** held at the Gooderham Community Centre. Doors open 5pm. Dinner at 6pm. Fish, turkey, potatoes, vegetables, salad & dessert. Loonie auction action after dessert. $20 pp *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*
Sun. June 5	**First Church Service** - visiting Minister expected. 10 am. Come as you are. **Book Nook Opening** - 11 am to 1 pm - no charge so help yourself to refreshments, books, videos, puzzles …
Sat. July 9	**Concert on the Lake** - Great music from the comfort of your own boat, canoe or paddleboard. Music starts at 6:30pm Tickets available in advance. Check *www.sdlca.ca* for more details.
Sat. July 23	**Wild Game Dinner** - Popular dinner, held at the Gooderham Community Centre. Doors open 5pm, buffet at 6pm. All game served as bite size pieces, you can sample it all. Remember bring loonies for after dinner fun. **PLEASE NOTE NEW LOCATION FOR THIS DINNER** *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*
Sun. July 31 TBD	Salerno Devil's Lake Cottage Association's Canoe Race, BBQ and Children's Games Salerno Devil's Lake Cottage Association's AGM check www.sdlca.ca for up to date information.
Fri. Aug 19 Sat. Aug 20	**Irondale Inspirations** - the artists that call Irondale home/cottage will be showcasing their work at the historical Irondale church. 10 am to 4pm. Please drop by, enjoy their talents. You may just catch one or more of them creating on site.
Sat. Sept 24	**Family Harvest Festival** - 11 to 4pm - Vendors, BBQ, displays, tours—all on the property of Irondale's historical church building. NO ADMISSION CHARGED. Hike Haliburton tour starts & ends here as well. *B.L.C.D. event*
Sat Nov 12	**Themed Dinner** held at the Irondale Community Centre. Dinner served from 5 pm til 7pm as long as supplies last. $20 pp Menu still being planned. *You certainly shouldn't go away hungry!* *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*

PLEASE FOLLOW US *www.facebook/IrondaleOntario and VISIT* OUR WEBSITE *www.IrondaleOntario.ca*

Irondale Events are advertised in these local papers - available at most stores across the county.

THE ECHO HALIBURTON COUNTY
The Times MINDEN ONTARIO
County Life Celebrating arts and culture in the Haliburton Highlands